

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 2, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following heading:

--BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--

Page 5, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION--

Page 26, between lines 31 and 32, insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--

Page 27, replace the paragraph beginning on line 31 with the following amended paragraph:

--Figure 7d shows, highly diagrammatically, an eighth embodiment of a cardiac prosthesis fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 27, replace the paragraph beginning on line 33 and bridging pages 27 and 28 with the following amended paragraph:

--~~Figure 8 shows a~~ Figures 8a-b show diagrammatic ~~cross-section~~ cross-sections of two details of further variant embodiments of a cardiac prosthesis fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 28, replace the paragraph beginning on line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Figure 13 shows~~ Figures 13a-d show, highly diagrammatically, as a detail a way in which in particular the bottom flange, but if desired also the top flange, can be brought back from the second position into the first position using aids;--

Page 29, replace the paragraph beginning on line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 26 shows~~ Figs. 26a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of a first embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 29, replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 27 shows~~ Figs. 27a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of a second embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 29, replace the paragraph beginning on line 31 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 28 shows~~ Figs. 28a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of further embodiments of fixing devices according to the invention;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 29 shows~~ Figs. 29a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 4 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 30 shows~~ Figs. 30a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 31 shows~~ Figs. 31a-b show, diagrammatically, a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 32 shows~~ Figs. 32a-c show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the invention.--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 33 shows~~ Figs. 33a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of an embodiment of a fixing device according to the first aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 21 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 35 shows~~ Figs. 35a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the first aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 36 shows~~ Figs. 36a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the first aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 27 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 37 shows~~ Figs. 37a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of an embodiment of a fixing device according to the second aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 30 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 38 shows~~ Figs. 38a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the second aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 30, replace the paragraph beginning on line 33 and bridging pages 30 and 31 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 39 shows~~ Figs. 39a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of a first embodiment according to the third aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 40 shows~~ Figs. 40a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet further embodiments of a fixing device according to the third aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 41 shows~~ Figs. 41a-c show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the left-hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of yet a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the third aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 9 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 42 shows~~ Figs. 42a-b show, diagrammatically, as a detail, (approximately the right hand half of) a longitudinal sectional view of a further embodiment of a fixing device according to the third aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 12 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 43 shows~~ Figs. 43a-c show, a diagrammatic cross-sectional view of a first embodiment of a fixing device according to the fourth aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 47 shows~~ Figs. 47a-b show, diagrammatically, a plan view of an embodiment according to the fifth aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 22 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 48 shows~~ Figs. 48a-b show, diagrammatically, a plan view of a further embodiment according to the fifth aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 24 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 49 shows~~ Figs. 49a-c show, diagrammatically, a detail view and radial sectional views of an embodiment according to the sixth aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 26 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 50 shows~~ Figs. 50a-b show, diagrammatically, radial sectional views of a further embodiment according to the sixth aspect of Section X.4;--

Page 31, replace the paragraph beginning on line 28 with the following amended paragraph:

~~--Fig. 51 shows~~ Figs. 51a-c show, diagrammatically, axial sectional views of embodiments according to the seventh aspect of Section X.4;--